

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY M:LSEAGLEBURGER:ML

APPROVED BY M - MR. EAGLEBURGER

S/S : JLHOGANSON

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S, AF-SEELYE (EYES ONLY) ONLY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 104091 TOSEC 110399

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FOR SCHAUFLE FROM EAGLEBURGER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.), APER, IV

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT OF IVORY COAST

1. YOU WILL BE RECEIVING A MESSAGE FROM SEELYE THROUGH YOU TO THE SECRETARY ON THE IVORY COAST PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE TO THE SECRETARY REGARDING RECALL OF AMBASSADOR SMITH. APPARENTLY SMITH, WITHOUT AUTHORIZATION, HAS TOLD IVORY COAST PRESIDENT HE IS BEING RECALLED; THIS ON TOP OF THE LUSAKA MESS I PREDICT WILL NOT BE WELL RECEIVED BY THE SECRETARY. NOR WILL I BLAME HIM FOR HIS UNHAPPINESS.

2. THE MESSAGE PROPOSED BY SEELYE IN RESPONSE TO HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY'S MESSAGE IS ABOUT AS GOOD AS WE CAN MANAGE BUT I THINK YOU NEED TO EXPLAIN IN DETAIL TO THE SECRETARY THE REASONS FOR SMITH'S WITHDRAWAL. I MENTIONED THE SUBJECT TO THE SECRETARY BEFORE HE LEFT AND GOT HIS APPROVAL, BUT HE MAY NOT REMEMBER THE CONVERSATION, AT LEAST IN ANY DETAIL.

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3. GOOD LUCK.

4. ONE FINAL THOUGHT: I THINK YOU SHOULD ADD TO THE LETTER
SOMETHING THAT CONVEYS THE THOUGHT THAT THE SECRETARY IS
PERSONALLY INVOLVED IN SELECTION OF A REPLACEMENT FOR

AMBASSADOR SMITH AND THAT OUR NOMINEE WILL BE SOMEONE OF
DISTINCTION AND SOMEONE IN WHOM THE SECRETARY HAS GREAT
PERSONAL CONFIDENCE. SISCO

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To: SECRETARY
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